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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1

CD NO.

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COUNTRY USSR (Gorki Oblast)

SUBJECT Type of Aircraft Observed at Gorki

DATE DISTR. 23 Mar. 1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

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NO. OF ENCLS. 1
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Next Review Date: 2008

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. A new type of aircraft appeared in May 1949. Six or seven
take-offs were observed each day, but it is doubtful whether
it was a different plane each time.

2. Description (see Annex):

a. Wings: Characteristic features of plane: wings swept
back so far aft that the rear ends of the wings were about at
the height of the elevator unit. The flying plane looked like
a swallow in the air. The wings were straight, comparatively
narrow, and the tips were oval.

b. Clearly made out as a midwing plane.

c. Fuselage: Oval, tapering towards the tail.

d. Turbo-jet drive: Under the fuselage. It could not be
said whether it was partly fitted in the fuselage or suspended
from the fuselage. The turbo-jet drive extended over approxi-
mately the middle third of the fuselage. Air inlet was about
in forward third of fuselage. Air-exit hole in rear third of
fuselage.

e. Rudder unit: A single unit, sweeping strikingly upwards.
Oval tip. Detailed description not possible.

f. Elevator unit: In upper third of rudder unit. Shape
unknown. Source said it was oval as usual.

g. Pilot's cockpit: Not determined. Because of the silvery
paint of the whole plane, the pilot's cockpit did not stand
out. It is probably in the nose. It does not project in any
way from the fuselage and therefore cannot be made out by its
shape.

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h. Antenna mast: Atop the nose, antenna leading to rudder unit.

i. Landing gear: Under the wings; retractable. Kind of retracting device unknown, probably in wings.

k. Nose wheel: Also observed when it was retracted or extended.

l. Armament: Not observed.

m. Dimensions: Only general data available. Size about that of a standard single-seater jet fighter.

n. Construction: Probably all-metal construction. (Only inferred from silvery coat. Details of construction could not be made out because of high speeds).

o. Flying qualities: Very high speed, but not estimated as there was no possibility for comparison. Nearly vertical climbing after short normal take-off to high altitudes. Rarely aloft. Acrobatics (loopings, rolls, etc.) observed.

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Comment:

The description based on the observation of this type, aloft and at a far distance only, is necessarily rather inaccurate and does not agree with the previous reports on this type by which all PWs were impressed in May 1949.

A type of jet fighter with a step on the fuselage has been reported. It had been observed flying over the airfield and therefore it was possibly a type of retraining plane for test fliers. The description given in this report may be the result of mixing the two types.

1 Annex: Type of Aircraft Observed in Gorki (sketch on ditto).

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